CHRISTMAS NEARS, CHEERS!

Saturday, Dec. 17, from 1 to 4 p.m. is one of our favorite events of the year—Christmas in the Harlow House. Santa Claus will be sitting by the fireplace, the house will be trimmed in Christmas greenery and there will be cups of hot wassail and Christmas goodies in abundance.

This is an open house so come anytime in the afternoon. Bring a plate of cookies to share and be prepared to take a sampling of other’s Christmas favorites home with you.

Since Santa will be present, this is an excellent opportunity to bring grandchildren or friends with children. Santa, incidentally, will be on duty that morning at the Troutdale Deli-Mart from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This open house is held in place of our regular December meeting. For those who have never visited Harlow House before it is located at 726 E. Columbia St., the third house on the west side of the road past city hall. The parking lot is at the front of the house.

NEW TO THE HOUSE...

New in the house this Christmas is an old pump organ given to us by Sam Adams, pastor of Cherry Park Presbyterian Church. The organ, in excellent condition, has been in his family many years.

Also new will be a display of antique cameras loaned to us by City Councilor Ron Burgin.

DECK THOSE HALLS...

The Christmas decorating committee will meet at the Harlow House on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 9:30 a.m. to trim the house for Christmas. As usual, we need all the Christmas greens we can get so please feel free to leave any holly, fir boughs, pine or whatever on the front porch. Naturally, we love to have old ornaments or Christmas decorations to add to our collection.

NAMES WE NEED TO KNOW...

The board of directors has decided to separate the duties of the secretary and has named Lois Schulthe membership secretary. She keeps track of who pays dues and sends out the newsletter. Last month the membership voted to name Willa Day an honorary member in recognition of her $1,000 contribution to our barn fund. Vera Streibin is chairwoman of our nominating committee. The committee will be looking for a secretary to take minutes and correspondence since Helen Otto has said she will not serve another year. Any volunteers? Two friends of the society, Marie Latourell Craig of the Columbia Gorge pioneer family, and Clarence Davis, who played in our ice cream social band, died last month. Herb Nasmyth was ill and couldn’t be present but his brother, John, carried on in fine style last month during the live interview. We are hoping to interview Donald “Chim” and Tillie Howell at our January meeting. So mark your calendars for January 16. Two troops of local Girl Scouts visited the Harlow House last month to earn heritage badges.

SAVE THOSE LIDS...

Ted and Lois Schulthe have learned that the society can earn a free 30-cup percolator by saving 125 metal lids from any size of Maxwell House Coffee. Since the society just bought a case of Maxwell House, we have a head start. So please help us save those lids.

FINALLY...

For those who haven’t heard, the state committee has approved the nomination of the Harlow House to the National Register of Historic Places. Federal approval will take several more months. The state committee was particularly impressed with the interior of the Harlow House and praised the society for its preservation work.